AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently amended) A method of operating a computer system [[(1)]] on which an application [[(5)]] is installed, said method comprising the steps of:

verifying whether a predetermined run authorization for the application [[(5)]] is present, and

in the absence of said predetermined run authorization, decreasing the speed of execution of the application [[(5)]] on the computer system [[(1)]] as compared to the speed of execution of the application [[(5)]] in the presence of the predetermined run authorization.

2. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the decrease in the speed of execution is increased with time.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein a resource provided to the application [[(5)]] by the computer system [[(1)]] is made scarce in order to decrease the speed of execution.

4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the bandwidth at which the application [[(5)]] communicates with at least one of a software module and a hardware module of the computer system [[(1)]] is reduced in order to decrease the speed of execution.

5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the verification step is repeated in order to decrease the speed of execution.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein the ~~computing power of the computer system (1) is reduced in order to decrease the speed of execution~~ verification step is repeated and executed more slowly in order to decrease the speed of execution.

7. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein ~~code, in particular code of the application (5), is executed~~ the computing power of the computer system is reduced in order to decrease the speed of execution.

8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein ~~the system performance required by the application (5) during execution is increased~~ code, in particular code of the application, is executed in order to decrease the speed of execution.

9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein ~~execution of the application (5) is temporarily interrupted~~ the system performance required by the application during execution is increased in order to decrease the speed of execution.

10. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any one of the above Claims~~ Claim 1, wherein~~, in to the decrease in the speed of execution, the readability of the user interface (8) of the application displayed on an output unit (4) of the computer system (1) is deteriorated, said deterioration in readability preferably increasing with time~~ execution of the application is temporarily interrupted in order to decrease the speed of execution.

11. (Currently amended) [[A]] The method ~~of operating a computer system (1) on which an application (5) is installed, said method comprising the steps of:~~

~~verifying whether a predetermined run authorization for the application (5) is present, and,~~

~~in the absence of said predetermined run authorization, deteriorating the readability of a user interface (8) of the application (5) displayed on an output unit (4) of the computer system (1) as compared to the user interface (8) displayed in the presence of the predetermined run authorization~~ as claimed in Claim 1, wherein a user interface of the application is displayed on an output unit of the computer system and, in addition to the decrease in the speed of execution, the readability of the user interface is deteriorated.

12. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in Claim 11, wherein ~~the contrast, the brightness of the displayed interface (8) is decreased and/or the transparency of the displayed user interface (8) I increased in order to reduce readability~~ said deterioration in readability is increased with time.

13. (Currently amended) A ~~computer system (1) comprising an installed application and a means of verification (6, 7), which verifies whether a predetermined run authorization for the application (5) is present, and, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, causes the speed of execution of the application (5) on the computer system (1) to be lower than the speed of execution of the application (5) in the presence of the predetermined run authorization and/or causes the readability of a user interface (8) of the application (5) displayed on an output unit (4) of the computer system (1) to deteriorate as compared to the readability of the displayed user interface (8) in the presence of the predetermined run authorization~~ method of operating a computer system on which an application is installed, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying a user interface of the application on an output unit of the computer system,

verifying whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and,

in the absence of said predetermined run authorization, deteriorating the readability of said displayed user interface as compared to the user interface displayed in the presence of the predetermined run authorization.

14. (Currently amended) ~~A computer program product, comprising software code, by which the steps of the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 12 are executed once the product is running on a computer system~~ The method as claimed in Claim 13, wherein at least one of the contrast of the displayed user interface and the brightness of the displayed user interface is decreased in order to reduce readability.

Please add new claims 15-20 as follows:

15. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 13, wherein the transparency of the displayed user interface is increased in order to reduce readability.

16. (New) The method as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the transparency of the displayed user interface is increased in order to reduce readability.

17. (New) A computer system comprising an installed application and a means of verification, which verifies whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, causes the speed of execution of the application on the computer system to be lower than the speed of execution of the application in the presence of the predetermined run authorization.

18. (New) A computer system comprising an installed application and a means of verification, which verifies whether a predetermined run authorization for the application is present, and, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, causes the readability of a

user interface of the application displayed on an output unit of the computer system to deteriorate as compared to the readability of the displayed user interface in the presence of the predetermined run authorization.

19. (New) The computer system as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the means of verification, if said predetermined run authorization is not present, additionally causes the readability of a user interface of the application displayed on an output unit of the computer system to deteriorate as compared to the readability of the displayed user interface in the presence of the predetermined run authorization.

20. (New) A computer program product, comprising software code, by which the steps of the method according to Claim 1 are executed once the product is running on a computer system.